

1852

MINUTES OF
A COUNCIL OF THE PRIESTHOOD,
OF HULL CONFERENCE OF THE
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day-Saints,

Held in the Wilberforce Rooms, St. John-street, Hull, June 12th, 13th, & 14th, 1852

Saturday Evening, June 14th.

Present,

Elder John Thomas Hardy, President. | Elder Augustine S. Green, Secretary.

Elders,

W. L. N. ALLEN, A. GALLOWAY, A. FINDLAY, C. BARNES, E. MAW
A. SMITH, T. SNOWBALL, J. HILSTEAD, A. G. STEVENSON, J. HILL,
SAMUEL HALLERT, WILLIAM RUSSEL, WILLIAM FOWLER, JOHN
THOMPSON, and WILLIAM CARR.

Priests,

James Taylor, John Bowie, William Wolstenholme, William M. Seaton,
William Micklethwaite, and William Lark.

Teachers,

Joseph Reed, Eljah Ranacre, John Millar, John Hurdsmann, Thomas
Cracroft, Robert Porter, and Robert Clarkson.

Deacons,

JOSEPH WALKER.

After the meeting had been opened by singing and prayer, Elder Hardy arose and made the following remarks:—Beloved Brethren, I am happy to see so many of you assembled together this evening, it has been in my mind for some time past to get the brethren together that we might counsel on the things pertaining to the welfare of the Kingdom of God in this last dispensation. I thought of this meeting when Elder Harrison was in our midst, but did not name it to him; since then circumstances have so transpired that I felt it ought not to be put off any longer, accordingly I wrote to Elder Harrison and communicated my mind to him respecting the same, and was happy to say that he highly approved of it, and sent a letter to this Council through me which I will now read, and hope the brethren will appreciate its worth.

7, Padding Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, June 11th, 1852.

Beloved Brethren of the Priesthood in the Hull Conference.

I beg leave to address a few words to you through the post. I learn from Brother Hardy that you will be assembled on the 12th inst., I should have been glad to be with you, but the condition of the work in this part orders it otherwise

for the present. As you will be assembled for the purpose of consulting the most advantageous steps to be taken for the extension of our Redeemer's kingdom on earth, I pray God, my Eternal Father, to give you abundantly of His Spirit, that your counsels may be united in every good word and work, for by this principle you will be able to accomplish every work which may be brought before you in the Lord. It was through faith and unity that the poor of God's people in this the dispensation of the fulness of times have preached the Gospel faithfully to the people of the *United States of America*,—extended the same boon to the inhabitants of Great Britain—gathered thousands to the land of God's choice, and when press'd upon by the wicked and rebellious, sought out a place beyond the reach of religious persecutions in the choice valleys of the Rocky Mountains—a home for the honest and oppressed of every clime; and by the continuation of this principle have they obtained a Territorial Government, and the very men to rule over them whom the Lord and his people wanted. So strong have been the bonds of unity that have bound the saints together in the Valley, that the authorities of the U. S. have granted the desires of their hearts; now if the wicked and ungodly yield to the power of faith, will our Heavenly Father withhold any good thing from a true and faithful band that are working upon the same principle? Experience answers no! Faith answers no! and the revelations of Heaven in this day and generation answers he will not.

Now Dear Brethren, connect together until you feel the love of God—the spirit of God run through your midst and bind you together like the heart of one man. You that have the testimony of Jesus, that know that this Gospel is true, must of necessity look to it for salvation; and is not salvation worth every sacrifice you can make? Hundreds have felt like this and have sealed their actions to their faith, which is by far the noblest illustration that faith can have. I am somewhat aware of the financial state of the Hull Conference, and verily believe that if the Priesthood will connect together until the spirit of the Lord runs from heart to heart, that when you go to your several branches, the members will catch the same spirit and any thing that is required of you to accomplish will be hailed as a pleasure, and not as a burden; then will the work of the Lord prosper in your hands and the kingdom of God be built up in majesty and power.

Dear Brethren, bring your minds to bear and to act in unison with that of your President, for the individual that does not, will act without the spirit of the Lord, and consequently without power with the people over whom he may preside or be called to teach. In as much as you receive and carry out the teachings of your President, so will the saints receive and carry out your teachings.

As the present season of the year is favourable to our door preaching, I feel to exhort my Brethren to thrust in the sickle and reap while the harvest is ripe, pour a flood of intelligence to the world and show them an example what unity will do with a handful of the willing and obedient who worship Israel's God. As there is a privilege extended towards the saints in this country for them to send an offering for the Temple building in the mountains, I hope they will hail it with delight and promptly respond to the same, as the day will come when they will rejoice that they have lived up to their privileges in this land, in contributing their mites to assist in building a house to the name of the Lord, where he will pour out his blessing on the faithful.

These Brethren, are some of the things that are upon my mind, and many more things I would be glad to mention, but my pen cannot keep pace with my feelings; but I trust that I may have the pleasure of meeting with you soon when

I transmit to you with greater freedom than I can write, on all matters that pertain to our Redeemer's Kingdom and the spread of this glorious work to which we all look for salvation. Brethren awake to emulation who shall be most faithful in the ministry; or best serve his God. "Let them that rule well be counted worthy of double honour" said an Apostle, and the greatest influence a servant of God can have is to have at all times the spirit of God; if he possesses that he will be able to govern and have power with the people of God. Brethren observe to do these things and God will prosper you, and you will have power, and grow stronger and stronger until the perfect day.

May the God of Heaven bless you with wisdom and his holy spirit to govern and teach his people in all things righteously, is the prayer of your humble servant and fellow labourer in the cause of our Redeemer. *Amen.*

APPLETON M. HARMON.

Such Brethren is the letter, and I could have wished Elder Harmon in our midst to have assisted us in our counsellings this evening. You will perceive by the tenor of the letter that the writer is aware of our object; I do not wish to hurry this meeting, we will take our time and do even as Elder Harmon says counsel together till we feel the spirit burn within us—till we are all of one mind, and can act in wisdom in all things. To accomplish this neglect not the principle of prayer, for if you do you will not enjoy the spirit of God; you will have no power, you will be feeble, and your faith will fail; prayer will prevail with God, prayer what can it not accomplish? Remember the testimonies that are left on record in the old and new Testament, and surely brethren if they could obtain great promises and blessings by using this means, what should kinder men in this age from enjoying the like precious things if they act in a similar way and use the same means? Think of these things. Brethren I want this meeting to be devoted to business. Ever since I have been in this Conference I have seen the necessity of having the Priesthood from the various Branches assemble together to receive instruction. There are more of the Priesthood this evening assembled from the Branches than I have ever seen before, I could have wished Elder Woodhead, from Goole, and Brother Harrison from Balholm to have been in our midst, because it is highly necessary that every one that hold a portion of the holy Priesthood of God, (and more especially those who preside over Branches) should be at such a meeting as this. This meeting is convened for the express purpose of talking over matter pertaining to the welfare of the work of God in this part of the earth; for devising measures for carrying on the same and extending it further, and disseminating truth to our Fellow Man. Negligence on the part of men who rule or govern not only hurts themselves but retards the work of God. Carelessness and carelessness enter into the minds of the Saints over whom they have the watch care; darkness takes the place of light, and intelligence; and they are subject to the powers of darkness, and finally they lead them on till they imbibed the spirit of apostasy and are cut off from the Church.

I shall not say more on this subject at the present time, but shall proceed to speak on matters that pertain to the Presidency of this Conference. I feel to ask if you are satisfied with the course I have taken since I came in your midst, as it is of the utmost importance that we should be of one mind in all things. The course I have pursued has been according to my calling as far I have knowledge of the same, I want the confidence of my Brethren for if we are united we can accomplish a great and good work. If any of you have any thing to suggest I

shall be glad to hear it, and I want us to be united in all that is done or brought before us at this time. Brethren the prosperity of the work depends on the spirit that is manifested in this assembly. For the well being of the Saints under your care, for the extension of the work in this part and for your Eternal Salvation and exaltation seek to enjoy the spirit of God. I trust that every one of you have come together for the purpose of counselling for the well being of the Church and Kingdom of God, and inasmuch as we each have a testimony to bear—a knowledge for ourselves that this is the Church of God, we ought to be alive to its interests, and endeavour to spread the truth far and wide, and go from this place to our several fields of labour refreshed and invigorated by the spirit, and perform those duties that devolve upon us. Brethren, I will now sit down and give way for you to say a few words respecting myself as your President, and my prayer is that we may continue to feel the rich influence of the spirit of the Lord, Even so, *Amen*.

Elder W. L. N. Allen, arose and said :—I for one can testify that I love Elder Hardy, and feel to act according to his instructions in all things. When I heard of his appointment to the Hull Conference I felt to rejoice, and since he has been in our midst I have rejoiced in his teachings, and been benefited by his counsels and instructions. The Hull Branch too under the counsel and instruction of Elder Hardy has been growing stronger. Several dead branches have been severed from this branch of late, and the work is now in a progressive state; the Saints are more united and the spirit of God is enjoyed by his people. I feel to uphold our President by my faith, prayers and means, and I pray the God of Heaven to bless him and his family and to give them abundantly of his spirit, *Amen*.

Elder Allan Findlay. Since Elder Hardy has been my President, I can bear my testimony to the uprightness of his conduct. I have derived much pleasure and benefit from his counsels and instructions, and have ever found him ready to give counsel when circumstances required, and when I have needed reproof through acting in any way unwise he has always been ready to give it sharply. For these things I feel to love him and have the utmost confidence in all that he may say or do. It shall ever be my aim and study to assist to carry out any measures that he may adopt for the spread of the work of God in this part of his vineyard. I have never heard any one in my travels among the Saints speak the first word against his uprightness and integrity. I pray the God of Israel to bless him, *Amen*.

Elder A. Galloway. I feel to love Elder Hardy and obey him in all things I have hitherto acted on this principle and have derived good from the same, there is no man in this assembly that loves him more than I do. I have never heard man or woman in my travels among the saints say a word against our beloved President. He is a man I have ever found ready to counsel when needed and sharp in reproof. When he has reproofed it has all been for my good, I feel he has taught us practically principles of life and salvation. It shall be my aim in the future to act according to his directions and walk in obedience to the counsel which he may give from time to time, that I may enjoy the spirit of God, and assist in rolling on the great work of the last days. I pray that Heaven's choicest blessings may rest upon him in the name of Jesus Christ, *Amen*.

Elder Carr of Louth. I regret that I cannot be always in such a meeting as this, it does me good to be here, it fires my soul with zeal for the prosperity of the work of God. The Spirit of God is in our midst and it causes me to rejoice. I, like my brethren, have rejoiced in the teachings of Elder

Hardy—in his administrations and in his counsels since he has had the Presidency of this Conference. At Leath the work has been at a low ebb for some time past, we have had no one as it were to lead us on—no one in our midst to whom we could look up to for counsel; but the cause is now removed and I hope the work will take root afresh and flourish, and gain strength. May the Lord bless Elder Hardy and you my Brethren with his Holy Spirit, even so *Amen*.

Elder W. Russel of Crowle. My presence here at this time ought to prove to you that I feel interested in this work, and willing to render obedience to those we ought to obey. The instructions of Elder Hardy have done me good this evening as well as in times that are gone by. I feel to honour and obey him in all things and to do what little I can in spreading the principles of truth among the children of men, and the establishing of truth upon the earth. It will be my aim to uphold our President by my faith, prayers and means, and may the spirit of God be with him and his family, and with us, even so *Amen*.

Elders C. Barnes, A. Smith, Thos. Snowball, A. G. Stephenson, W. Fowler, and the rest of the Brethren present testified that the remarks that had already been made with respect to the course pursued by Elder Hardy were in accordance with their feelings, they fully concurred in all that had been said, and said it was their determination to do their duty in assisting to roll on the work of God, and sustaining the authorities of the church.

Elder Hardy then made the following remarks:—I feel rejoiced this evening that the Brethren present have expressed themselves satisfied with the course I have pursued, it gives me great joy; your approval of my conduct during my Presidency creates in my bosom feelings of gratitude to God my Heavenly Father. I now feel we can do good and my desire will be at all times to do you all the good I can according to the position in which I am placed.

At the London General Conference, President Richards said there was a principle in the midst of the Saints that the world could not find out, he said: "seek to govern in love and the saints will love you," in another he said: "I feel to hang on you Brethren, and if you will hold on, I will, if I get up, pull you up also. This is the principle on which we shall all be saved, if we ever are saved by holding on to each other, the lesser being lifted up by the greater." Brethren I desire the Spirit of God to be with us and bind us together as the heart of one man that we be not divided. The welfare of the Church depends upon this principle. The salvation of thousands depends on the Priesthood of this place, and our own salvation in the Kingdom of God demands the exercise of this very principle.

I shall now proceed to lay before you some matters pertaining to the Book Agency in this Conference, and shall call Elder Allen the Book Agent to speak on this subject and give an account of his Stewardship.

Elder Allen. Beloved Brethren with respect to the Book Agency there are several debts owing me which may appear to you delinquencies on my part.

The first item is a debt of £4 3s 2½d.; this Brethren is a curious case and requires some little explanation. It appears that Elder Beecroft who was then Book Agent for the Conference on the eve of his departure for America made out a balance sheet belonging to the Book Agency for the purpose of transferring the Books to Elder Findlay who was to succeed him as Book Agent, and according to his account, made out things all right. Elder Findlay being called away from home on business did not

got to examine the account thoroughly till after Brother B., had taken his departure for America, but afterwards upon close examination he found there was a deficiency of £4 3s. 2½d. Upon this discovery he wrote to Elder Beecroft explaining the affair to him: upon the receipt of which he wrote back to say that he expected all things had been properly settled, and trusted that it would eventually be found so, but if there was any thing wrong on his part it was his desire to make it right. Since then another letter has been sent to him giving some further information and requesting him to remit the amount due to the Book Agent of the Hull Conference, but up to the present we have not received any answer to our last letter. But I believe Brother Beecroft to be an honest man and feel persuaded that he will not act unjust to his brethren in this Conference.

After some conversation on this subject it was moved by Elder Allen and seconded by Elder Russel that a letter be sent immediately to Brother Beecroft to shew him the position he stands in, with a request that he transmit the sum due by him to this Conference as soon as possible.

Elder Allen. There is another item I will now name, that is relative to a debt that was contracted by G. E. Taylor during the time he was in this Branch, it was contracted during the time Elder Beecroft was agent, after Elder Mindlay was appointed agent, he wrote to G. E. Taylor, on receipt of which he transmitted part of the sum due, and the sum of 7s 3d now remains to be paid. G. E. Taylor is now out of from the Church, therefore this will have to come on the Hull Branch. There is another debt of £1 owing to the Book Agent by the Conference, it has been standing for some time, and a little dispute has arisen concerning the same, as to which Branch this debt belongs, therefore I should like it to be settled at this meeting. After some discussion by the Brethren it was moved and unanimously carried that the Hull Branch be responsible for the same.

Elder Hardy. I think the affairs of the Book Agency are got through that is with respect to debts owing to the Agent, and perhaps it would be as well to adjourn the meeting till to morrow morning.

It was then moved and carried that we adjourn till to morrow morning.

BENEDICTION BY THE PRESIDENT.

SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 13th,

After singing, Prayer was offered up by Elder A. Galloway, Elder Hardy then arose and said: Beloved Brethren, I am happy in assembling again with you this morning, we will try to make the meeting profitable to each and every one, and endeavour to act under the influence of the Spirit of God. As time is rolling on I will proceed to lay before you the business of the meeting. The first item will be in relation to the "Star." Having had some conversation with our Book Agent, I find according to his statement that the Stars are rapidly accumulating. You are aware Brethren that during Elder Pratt's Presidency, the "Star" was much reduced in price on condition that every conference quadrupled their number, and unless these conditions were complied with the "Star" could not be reduced in price. Its circulation went on well for a time, but we have found upon examination that several of the members have ceased taking so many, these things must not be, we are as a Conference responsible to the Office at Liverpool, and we must see that our accounts are as straight as possible. If the Saints could see as I see, and some of

my Brethren, there would be none too many but we would purchase them and preserve them for our children. Brethren I would say let a pattern in all things to the Saints, urge upon them the necessity of taking the "Star," they cannot have such a portion of the Spirit if they are careless and negligent, as those who peruse the teachings of the Servants of God and drink from that stream which is continually flowing, again the "star" gives you information concerning the position of the Church, it informs our minds of the prospects, the trials, and difficulties of the servants of God who are sent among the nations of the earth to unfold the banner of Truth. It can be used for preaching, it can appear where no servant of God can go. By it the mansions of the great can be entered—the proud can be warned—and the tidings of Salvation carried to earth's remotest bounds. Therefore as I said before, I do not think there are too many Stars taken in this Conference, and if the saints feel as I feel, there will not be very long such a large stock in the hands of the Agent. I do not like the idea of going backwards, it is not the spirit of the work Onward! Upward! is the cry from Zion, and as the sound reaches our ears, we ought to extend the cry that the work may be in very deed on the same track in this place. I should like to hear the minds of my brethren upon this subject, so will now give way.

Elder W. L. Allen, arose and said:—Ever since I have been in the Church my mind has been expanding and has been continually thirsting for that intelligence; that light that is continually beaming from the fountain of light; as soon as ever I saw the "Star" I did not rest till I became in possession of the same, and continued to take them till I became fired with the intelligence they contained. I was not satisfied until I got hold of every one I possibly could, and am now exerting myself to get in possession of those volumes that were published previous to my entering the Church. If any exhortation of mine will have any influence on the minds of the Saints, I would say to them never rest satisfied until your minds are informed with the intelligence contained in the "Star" for it is a beacon to the Saints of God that will guide their feet in the paths of truth and righteousness, and lead them safe on the mountains of Ephraim there to rejoice in the liberty of the Sons and Daughters of God.

Afterwards several of the Brethren spoke to the benefit that they derived from taking the "star," and that they would exert themselves to the utmost to extend its circulation and thereby relieve the mind of the Agent, and would assist in lessening the stock that is now in his hands. After some discussion among the Brethren it was unanimously resolved that this Council exert themselves to extend the circulation of the "Star," and not cease their exertions until they have accomplished the same and reduced the stock on hand agreeable to the mind of our President.

Elder Hardy. The next thing I wish to speak upon is the Perpetual Emigration Fund, I do not want the brethren to lose sight of it, for it is calculated to do good to thousands. The poor and oppressed of the earth have cause to rejoice that the Lord has put such means into the hands of his servants, and given them His Spirit to enlighten their minds. Brethren arouse yourselves to this thing and your deliverance is certain, but it is so ably treated upon in the "Star" that I need not say much at this time.

The temple offering is another thing I wish to call your attention to, the erection of a Temple is of the utmost importance to the Saints in this land, they have entered into a covenant with their Heavenly Father, they have begun a work.

The Temple is the place where light and intelligence will be revealed, and where the Saints of God will have to finish what they have now begun. The Saints in America have accomplished much and have received great blessings thereby, and now it rests with the Saints in this land to prove that they are worthy of the like things, and show that they too will enter in by the door and legitimately claim the promised blessings. Some of the Conferences have set a noble example and I hope the Hull Conference, though few in number, will prove that the Spirit of Israel's God is in their midst. May the Lord bless you and enable you to accomplish all things pertaining to your high and holy calling *Amen*.

Elder Allen arose and said:—I wish my brethren that all the Priesthood had been present, for the business that I am about to introduce concerns every man, eye and every Saint, we have received Elder Hardy as a man of God, we feel to love him, and honour him for his calling, we have been benefited by his instructions and counsels, and it is our duty to contribute to the maintenance of his family, with a due regard to their comfort. I would like his family to have more than they have, as I have some idea what a house requires, and since Elder Hardy has been in Hull he has always had some visitors, and it presses hard upon his family, we ought to consider these things and do all that we can to make his family comfortable. My feelings are that we should do something more for them.

Elder Smith said:—I fully concur in all that Elder Allen has said, I have some idea what it takes to support a family; experience is a good teacher, I do not think the means which they now have are adequate to support the family of Elder Hardy, I for one would rejoice if any more could be done for them.

Elder Hardy.—Ever since I have been in your midst I have felt that the Saints have exerted themselves to sustain me in the position I hold as their President, my feelings are peculiar at this time seeing that Elder Allen has introduced this subject, I was not aware that it would come before this meeting, but for myself I do not complain of what has been done, nor do I wish my family to be at ease when my brethren are exerting themselves and struggling under adverse circumstances, I have a knowledge of your affairs and the circumstances you are placed in, and for this reason am I particularly sensitive on the present occasion, but my affairs are such that a little assistance in the way of means would be of great service to me, and would relieve my mind from some things that are pressing heavily upon it. I am aware that you are rather straitened at this time, but by our united efforts and the Blessing of the Lord, I hope we shall be able to extricate ourselves and have more liberty, and our minds more at rest on these matters.

It was then moved by Elder Allen and seconded by F. Ramasco, that means be raised to relieve Elder Hardy, and that each branch bear an equal proportion of the same. *Carried*.

It was then moved and carried that we adjourn to Monday Evening.

BENEDICTION BY ELDER ALLEN.

MONDAY EVENING, June 14th,

The council again met pursuant to adjournment, and the meeting was opened in the usual way by singing and prayer.

Elder Hardy made a few introductory remarks, and then proceeded to make the following alterations in the Priesthood.

1st.—Moved by Elder Hardy, and seconded by W. H. Carr, that Elder Allan Findlay be released from Beverley, and be appointed to take charge of Louth Branch. *Carried.*

2nd.—Moved by Elder Hardy, and seconded by Elder A. Findlay, that William Lark, Priest, be ordained to the office of an Elder, and be appointed to preside over the Beverley Branch. *Carried.*

3rd.—Moved by C. Barnes, and seconded by J. T. Hardy, that Priest David Smith of Preston, be ordained to the office of an Elder. *Carried.*

4th.—Moved by Elder Hardy and seconded by A. Galloway, that Teacher Thomas Croft, of Louth, be ordained to the office of Priest. *Carried.*

5th.—Moved by Elder Allen and seconded by John Bowle, that Brother John Dewick, receive the office of Deacon. *Carried.*

Elder Hardy then proceeded to make a few closing remarks and spoke as follows:—I will now speak to the Brethren and say, do not go away from this place and allow the things that have been passed to be as a tale that is told. Do you not know the meaning of the uplifted hand? Is it not a token that we covenant to perform the things that are brought before us? According to my ideas it is. Then in as much as we are all impressed with these things let us go to our respective fields of labour, and regulate things accordingly. By so doing we shall have our selves ready to perform any thing that may be required at our hands. To the Presidents of Branches I would say, be up and doing, teach the Saints their duties—be an example in all things, if you see iniquity rebuke it sharply, urge upon the Saints the necessity of taking the “Stars.” Tell them unless they make themselves acquainted with the teachings of the Servants of God, they cannot retain the spirit of the work, they will be left in the back ground, and their minds will become clouded. Let your attention be directed to your records, have them in such a manner as you will be able to put your hands on every member, and detect all that walk not in the ways of virtue and holiness. At the London Conference this thing was pointed out very clearly by President F. D. Richards. Let the Temple offering, the Perpetual Emigrating Fund, and all other matters engage your attention. Stir up the minds of the Saints to diligence and faithfulness, preach the Gospel in plainness, bear your testimony in meekness, and seek to do good to all. Be prayerful and God will bless you, and you will be the honoured instruments in the hands of God of doing much good in your day and generation, and the time is not far distant when you will be in the society of the Saints in the valleys of the mountains rejoicing in the enjoyment of the blessings that belong to none but the Saints of the Most High. To the travelling Elders let me say, be faithful in the discharge of your duties, do not let trials or difficulties deter you from them. It is my counsel that you spend as little time as possible among the Saints, but go among those that have not heard the truth, and thus extend the work of God. The condition of some of the Branches has been such that I have been under the necessity of appointing some of you to preside, but I trust by your exertions we will be able to set things in order, and speedily be able to fully liberate you to go into the world. By attending to these instructions you will be able to accomplish a great amount of good in your several fields of labour, and many through your instrumentality be brought to a knowledge of the everlasting Gospel.

And in conclusion let me say to all, be firm and unshaken—stand against all things that may oppose you, be ever ready to act according to

righteousness, and may the God of Heaven bless you, preserve you, and give you his Holy Spirit to guide and direct your steps is the desire of your humble servant in the name of Jesus Christ, *Amen*.

Elder W. Bassel. I cannot let this meeting close without expressing my feelings relative to the conduct of our Beloved President, I feel he has acted in a manner that deserves our warmest thanks, and I would say let us retire from this place and prove to him, and to all, that we honour him by adhering to his counsels and instructions in all things.

It was then moved by Elder C. Barnea, and seconded by Elder W. L. N. Allen, that the minutes of this Council be published. *Carried*.

The Hymn on the 359th page was then sung, and after a Benediction from President Hardy, the Brethren separated.